

Whereas, it is with special pleasure that the members of the Missouri House of Representatives pause to recognize an outstanding Missouri citizen who has brought great commitment and steadfast dedication to the teaching profession; and

Whereas, Karen Dawson, a treasured resident of Washington, Missouri, is one of twenty-five select individuals named to the 2003 All-USA Teacher Team by USA TODAY; and

Whereas, the first visual arts teacher to ever earn the USA TODAY honor, Karen Dawson has played an integral role in the educational success and development of countless youngsters at Washington High School for twenty-seven years, during which time she has greatly enjoyed watching as her students have grown to become productive young men and women; and

Whereas, lovingly referred to as the "queen of glitter," Karen Dawson is a mentor, role model, and friend to her students and possesses a positive attitude and contagious smile which she brings to the classroom each day; and

Whereas, Karen Dawson's creative vision has helped many students develop leadership skills, while her teaching skills have inspired lifelong learning; and

Whereas, the proud recipient of countless awards and honors including Outstanding Teacher of the Year by the District's WINGS Foundation and the Ford Motor Company's "Commitment to Kids" Award, Karen Dawson has held a national leadership camp for students in New York for many years, and has served as a Youth Leadership and Student Council adviser, chairman of the Art Department, and member of the Missouri Association of Student Council Advisers; and

Whereas, the founder of the Circle of Friends program at Washington High School, Karen Dawson joined her Student Council kids in hosting the South Central District Student Council Convention on Friday, October 24, 2003, which brought more than 650 students from thirty-one schools to the Washington High School campus:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, unanimously join in extending our most hearty congratulations to Karen Dawson at this proud moment of well-deserved distinction, and in wishing her only the very best of success as she continues to touch the lives of Missouri's youngest citizens through excellence in education; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for Karen Dawson, as a mark of our esteem for her.

Offered by _____
Representative Kevin Threlkeld
District No. 109

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 4554, adopted November 3, 2003.

Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker